



Sorority lodges
prepare to open
at UTM

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Discovery Park
set to open
Nov. 1

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Ripley High
School attends
UTM Art Day

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Men mourned,
but remembered
for their smiles

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the pacer



October 23, 2013

Independent voice of the University of Tennessee at Martin

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In 1963, Mayor Doug Murphy, WCMT general manager Duke Drumm and County Judge Cayce Pentecost break ground for the construction of what is now the Hardy M. Graham Stadium. | **Photo Credit/The Volette**

Then and now: Plans set for football stadium

Staff Reports

Fifty years ago, the first shovels of dirt were turned for what is now Hardy M. Graham Stadium at UTM.

Next year, the half-century-old facility is scheduled for a serious facelift.

On Saturday, Oct. 12, 1963, a groundbreaking ceremony for a new, modern stadium was held during halftime of the Homecoming Game between then-UTMB (University of Tennessee Martin Branch) and Livingston State, according to an article in the Oct. 15, 1963, *Volette*

student newspaper, now known as *The Pacer*.

The new stadium was built on the west side of the playing field that had been used since 1930, when UTMB was UT Junior College.

When that field was built just north of what is now the UTM

Student Life Center, it featured a cinder track and one of the first lighted stadium areas in West Tennessee, according to author Bob Carroll in his book *The University of Tennessee at Martin: The First One Hundred Years*.

See **Stadium** Page 24

Bookstore unveils plans for new UC location

Kara Kidwell
Malorie Paine

Social Media Manager
Managing Editor, Print

Barnes and Noble hosted four focus groups Monday night in the UC to ask for student input on their new location.

Emily Conley, of Barnes and Noble corporate, and Mara Burton, manager of the UTM Barnes and Noble, facilitated the meetings.

Students were shown a booklet with designs for two potential floor plans for the bookstore as it makes plans to move downstairs in the UC at the end of the Spring 2014 semester. The bookstore hopes that moving downstairs will allow for more traffic and better accessibility for students.

Students attending the meetings were encouraged to ask questions and offer input on the design and what items the store should carry, such as shirts,

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Viewpoints

EDITORIAL

The Pacer wishes students a happy Halloween

Halloween is almost one week away, and if you're an American you probably either love it or hate it.

For the sake of saving time, let's assume that we are talking to those who love it, because we have nothing prepared for the folks who don't.

Halloween is a somewhat complex holiday, as it is a paradox to American culture. Think about it: when else can one see death and allusions to violence on children's programming outside of October?

But that's the beauty of this gruesome holiday. The unacceptable becomes acceptable,

and the less tasteful an outfit is, the more festive you are on this one night in the fall.

But keep in mind that all the frightful fun on Halloween can make us oblivious to the real dangers that come with a good time.

That being said, *The Pacer* encourages readers to enjoy this Halloween in any strange and perverted ways they wish, provided they stay out of any actual harm's way.

While alcohol is typically the adult version of candy in this time-honored tradition of indulgence and provocative outfits, we should be just as

careful with receiving alcohol from strangers as we are with receiving candy from strangers.

And once that alcohol is in your system, do us all a favor and stay off the road. That is not how you want your name to end up in *The Pacer*. And yes, we would do that; don't test us.

But maybe you're not the type to drink. Perhaps you are one of those people who prefers good old-fashioned sober fun, and Halloween is no exception. You probably also think that this makes you exempt from any potential danger. We're glad we got to you in time, you naïve young soul.

Halloween has a nasty habit of attracting a fair share of creeps, the kind of creep that is creepy with or without a costume. Without going into details, we will simply ask you not to go out alone. Halloween is more fun with friends anyway.

Halloween can be one of the most fun nights of the year, and we certainly hope that is the case for our readers. Just remember that among all the "dangers" of ghosts and axe murderers on the streets, there are some real dangers just waiting for you to drop your guard.

Have fun, stay safe and happy Halloween from *The Pacer*.

COLUMN

Students trying to help should not have to fear the law

Mark Maloney

Guest Writer

Imagine that you are underage and receive a call from a friend who has been drinking illegally and needs a sober ride.

Should you be penalized for going to help those who are seeking it? If there is an emergency situation, should you have to fear legal and academic punishments before taking what you know to be the right actions?

That is the question being raised in North Andover, Mass., as a 17-year-old volleyball player is penalized by her high school for going to a party to give her friend a sober ride. The school has handed her a suspension and stripped her of her title as team captain.

These consequences have come even despite responding officers vouching for her sobriety and not issuing her any citations. Doing what many would consider the 'right thing' has quite literally cost young Erin Cox and thrust her into the national spotlight, begging the question of how noble intentions could lead to such negative consequences.

In light of events such as this, 11 states began offering 'Good Samaritan' amnesty measures dating back to the early 2000s. These policies permit people who may be drinking underage or engaging in some other illegal substances the ability to seek help when necessary without the threat of legal repercussions.

Typically these states protect the person calling about the emergency, and some even offer immunity to anyone who receives treatment. In the latter cases, they tend to offer educational programs to the individuals rather than traditional punitive measures.

According to studies published by the Students for Sensible Drug Policy, SSDP, an advocacy group for these amnesty clauses, should a person be overdosing, there is only a 50 percent chance that one of their peers will call 911 to seek help.

Typically, the primary reason for this hesitation is said to be a fear of legal repercussions. States with these special amnesty provisions prevent that fear, and therefore, have a greater chance of people calling when help is needed.

Much like the states, about 240 universities nationwide have

“If there is an emergency situation, should you have to fear legal and academic punishments before taking what you know to be the right actions?”

crafted similar regulations within their codes of conduct. Cornell University, for example, established its amnesty provisions in 2002 and saw an increase in calls to emergency services in necessary situations. Despite the greater number of calls and administrative fear that amnesty would lead to more irresponsible behavior, reports indicate that there was no significant increase in alcohol or illegal substance consumption among its students.

College students, in particular a group that is automatically linked with overindulgence, are 2.5 times

more likely to call 911 when witnessing the signs of alcohol poisoning if they are aware of some form of medical amnesty.

Does it not seem that both administrations and students benefit in these situations? Neither side must face the knowledge or consequences that inaction on their part was a factor in the potential loss of a young life.

Despite this, UTM is not a member of that list of schools providing amnesty. Specifically for a school that maintains a strictly dry campus, students may be even more intimidated to take appropriate courses of action, but those moments of hesitation may be the difference between life and death.

Surely we at UTM are not necessarily in the same boat as the young woman in Massachusetts, but we, much like her, must be diligent in our demeanor any time we even come close to a drop of alcohol.

Like her, our amnesty is not guaranteed and our futures may very well be tarnished even when we intend for nothing but good.

the
pacer

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News

Free tutoring offered in residence halls

Tammy Jo Stanford

Guest Writer

A new program, Residence Hall Tutoring, is now available at UTM.

For quite some time, the offices of Housing, Student Success and Student Engagement have been meeting to discuss the possibility of bringing academic assistance to the residence halls. In order to see if this program was something UTM students would be interested in, representatives from these offices sent out a survey to the students living in the residence halls.

Of those students, 88 percent responded as being interested or very interested in having tutoring available in the residence halls. Those offices also surveyed the top STEM classes that students would be most interested in having tutoring sessions in and at what times would be most convenient. The data was then used to put together a pilot program to gauge if students would utilize this service.

Ryan Martin, assistant director of Housing,

Residence Hall Tutoring Schedule

Mondays 6 – 9 p.m.:

Chemistry 121/122 –
Browning Hall Computer Lab

Biology 130/140 –
Ellington Hall Closed Lobby.

Tuesdays 6 – 9 p.m.:

Math 100/110/140 –
Ellington Hall Closed Lobby

Biology 130/140 and Math 210 –
Browning Hall Computer Lab.

Wednesdays 6 – 9 p.m.:

Math 100/110/140 –
Browning Hall Computer Lab

Biology 110/120 and Math 210 –
Ellington Hall Closed Lobby



Thursdays 6 – 9 p.m.:

Chemistry 121/122 –
Ellington Hall Closed Lobby

Biology 110/120 –
Browning Hall Computer Lab.

Tutoring will be available at a set time every week, and all students need to do is go by the tutoring locations at the assigned time for the various subjects being offered.

An email of the scheduled times and locations has been sent to all on-campus residents and is posted in the lobbies of the residence halls. If a student would like to receive individual tutoring, Sheila Patterson in the Student Success Center should be contacted, and she will provide a list of students willing to tutor in a variety of subjects. However, there will be a fee for individual tutoring, and the price is at the discretion of the tutor.

For the pilot program, tutoring will only be offered in locations in Browning and Ellington Halls. If the program is popular and effective they will look into expanding it to other locations, such as University Village. For more information about this program, contact Sheila Patterson at spatte20@utm.edu, the Supplemental Instruction Office at sisupervisor@utm.edu or Ryan Martin at rmartin@utm.edu.

encourages students to sign up for the resources.

"We hope that students will take advantage of this

opportunity to get academic support in their home. We want to see our students have every opportunity possible to

excel academically, and this just adds one more support system that we are happy to offer," Martin said.

Wildlife Society helps community preserve land

Aimee Bilger

Pacer Writer

The UTM student chapter of the Wildlife Society is a professional organization that knows the importance of preserving the land.

The chapter does a variety of things within the community including habitat work. They also have an ongoing project in correlation with Tyson Factory in Union City, Tenn. The group is responsible for the upkeep and landscaping of the factory's property.

"It's hard to find a job in wildlife after graduation without some type of internship," said

Tanner Romsdal, Wildlife Society president.

Because of this, the chapter travels to different conferences and competitions throughout the year in order to give members a chance to meet other professionals in the same field. Transportation for trips is provided through the department.

"It's a great way for us to connect," said Brandon Woodward, a sophomore Natural Resource Management major.

South Eastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, SEAFWA, is one of the conferences the society attends. At this conference, wildlife professionals share research that they have completed.

"Networking through the Wildlife Society has been a benefit for me. I met my current boss through a squirrel hunting game we were having. I sent in my resume and I got the job," said Brant Luker, executive wildlife officer.

Every spring, the local chapter competes against other universities in the Southeast for three days in a state chapter meeting. Last year, the UTM chapter placed first in cervid calling and third in a team obstacle course. They placed seventh overall out of 30 schools and third overall in the team competition.

The Wildlife Society is also active with the Martin Boy Scouts troop. The chapter helps the young boys obtain their merit badges.

The chapter was also presented at Martin Elementary School to help make the children aware of the importance of keeping the community clean.

Every year, the Wildlife Society does a spring clean-up in Weakley County; they choose a local stream and gather all the trash they can find from it.

The society has an open door policy to any major. Their meetings are held twice a month on Thursdays in Brehm Hall, Room 258 at 5:30 p.m.

"In the world we live in, we tend to take for granted the habitat and wildlife here. More and more humans are coming in everyday. The farther away we get from

the city, the more land we take up. The wildlife needs the land to survive, so preserving it is the key. We must take care of the land, but it must be managed properly and that, in a nutshell, is what we do," Romsdal said.

The society will be traveling to Milwaukee, Wis. Oct. 5-10 for the Tennessee Wildlife Society Annual Conference. On Oct. 13-16, the group will travel to Oklahoma City, Okla. for the 67th Annual SEAFWA Conference.

For more information on the organization or to join, contact Romsdal at tanjroms@ut.utm.edu.

News



Artist renderings courtesy UTM Office of Alumni Affairs

Sorority lodge construction to start in January

Mary Jean Hall

News Editor

Nearly 50 years after being founded on the UTM campus, four sororities participated in a groundbreaking ceremony Oct. 5 for new lodges on campus.

Hundreds of members and alumni of Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi, Chi Omega and Zeta Tau Alpha, all sororities in the National Panhellenic Council, came out to celebrate the groundbreaking ceremony.

Panhellenic President Secily Scott spoke about the history of the sorority lodging at UTM.

Each of the four sororities was given one room in Grove Apartments in the 1960s to use for a lodge. In the 1980s, the sororities were allowed to expand to two apartments.

Sorority recruitment was held in Grove Apartments until 2004, when recruitment was too large and it had to be held in the UC.

The new lodges will be built on the southern edge of campus near University Courts.



"We will have a place to call our own," Scott said.

Each of the four sororities has committed to pay about \$500,000 for their new lodge, which will be two stories and about 3,800 square feet.

The Alpha Omicron Pi lodge and Chi Omega lodge are expected to have similar building designs, while the Alpha Delta

Pi and Zeta Tau Alpha lodges are similar.

Each lodge will feature a meeting room, guest room and other amenities for the sorority to utilize.

"I think it gives the kids a great opportunity to develop a better, longer, deeper relationship," said Betty Ann Tanner, a Board of Trustees member. "It's an

exciting element to Greek Life."

Other UTM alumni showed their excitement at the groundbreaking, including Chi Omega alumnae Linda Neese Beringer.

"As an alumnae who lives out of state, I think it will be wonderful to have a spot to congregate, to come to visit, to meet, like a nest for our owls," Beringer said.

"I must give most of the credit for us being here to the alumni members of these sororities who have worked diligently to raise funds to ensure these lodges would become a reality," UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes said. "Our sorority members are leaders on this campus and become loyal alumni as evident at the groundbreaking."

The presidents of each sorority are already making plans for the new lodges.

"The main thing is that we have a place to call our own," said Kelsey Breland, current UTM Zeta Tau Alpha president. "We'll be able to have chapter there, and sisterhoods. It'll be our house and we'll be able to do what we want there instead of being limited in the UC."

Administration expects that the L building of University Courts will be demolished to make room for the lodges.

Construction is expected to start in January 2014 and be completed in the 2014-15 academic year.

News

Scenes from the sorority lodge groundbreaking



The president and two alumnae from Zeta Tau Alpha, Alpha Delta Pi, Chi Omega and Alpha Omicron Pi broke ground for the new sorority lodges Oct. 5 with Vice chancellor of Student Affairs Margaret Toston, UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes, UT Board of Trustees member Betty Ann Tanner, Vice Chancellor for Advancement Andy Wilson and Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration Nancy Yarbrough. Construction is expected to start in January 2014. | **Pacer Photo / Mary Jean Hall**



Alpha Omicron Pi alumni from the 1970s had a miniature reunion at the groundbreaking. (From left) Phyllis Pritchett, Vicki Shepherd Snyder, Theresa Hardison Latta, Winkie Ray Warren, Betsy Brent Robinson, Vicki Fry Whitworth and Felicia Mears. | **Pacer Photo / Mary Jean Hall**



(Top) Current members of the Chi Omega sorority gather at the site of their new lodge. Above: Current members of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority gather around their sign during the groundbreaking ceremony.

(Left) Zeta Tau Alpha alumni and current members get together to celebrate the new sorority lodges. From left, Traci Tate, Vicki Clark, April Jones, Karen Scruggs, Susan Armour, Michele Johnson Spears, Susan Beard, Bethany Henderson, Kelsey Breland, Beth Hartlieb and Ginny Hartlieb. | **Pacer Photos / Mary Jean Hall**



News

COLUMN

Phone apps can help with dangerous weather

Mary Jean Hall

News Editor

The tornadoes that came across Northwest Tennessee on Oct. 5 served as a brief reminder that severe weather can surprise people at any moment.

While there appeared to be issues with the campus emergency text messaging system that night, ultimately the responsibility of staying prepared for severe weather falls on the individual.

There are many different applications for cell phones that can potentially be the difference in life and death when severe weather does approach. I've gathered a list of a few free apps that gave me a little peace on Oct. 5 as the sirens were wailing.

First, I'd like to encourage anyone with a smartphone to download the Weather Underground app for basic weather information. I prefer Weather Underground over the Weather Channel app.

A few years ago when tornadoes came through Weakley County, the electricity went out, and I found myself without TV or radio to tell me the precise location of the tornadoes. I had been a faithful user of the Weather Channel app until that night.

The Weather Channel app had a 15-minute delay on updating the radar system. When seconds count, a 15-minute delay can mean the difference between life and death.

Luckily, I had recently downloaded the Weather Underground app because of a friend's suggestion. I pulled up that app, expecting the same delay. The Weather Underground app was continually refreshing, which allowed me to see the exact location of the most dangerous weather.

The other general information, such as day-to-day temperatures, is also reliable on Weather Underground.



Pacer Graphic / Mary Jean Hall

The Red Cross also has several weather-related apps that are extremely beneficial in severe weather. I would encourage everyone to download the Red Cross Tornado app.

I was sitting in a restaurant at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 5 when an alarm rang on my phone, letting me know that Weakley County was likely to be under a tornado warning in the coming hour. The group I was with finished dinner, made it home, and we all charged our phones – all before Weakley County ever had announced the tornado warning.

The trick is in knowing how to set it up.

The Tornado app allows you to receive notifications for any county in the United States. The best strategy for UTM students to stay ahead of the severe weather is to sign up to receive notifications for Obion County, not just Weakley County.

Most of the time severe weather comes our way after passing through Obion County. Every

once in a while that can change, but getting notifications for neighboring counties can help us prepare here.

The Tornado app also includes preparedness quizzes, shelter information and other tips for before, during and after the severe weather.

The Red Cross also has other apps, including one for First Aid. The app offers information on how to prepare for general emergencies, mini tests to try out your knowledge of how to handle chaotic situations, and an "emergency" section that walks you through those chaotic situations should you find yourself in the midst of one.

Many other apps are available that could benefit individuals in their time of need. I've only mentioned a few here, but those are apps that I find myself relying on when disaster does strike. Ultimately it is up to each of you to test various apps and find the ones that best suit your needs.

Safety: What students should do during severe weather

Joel Sissman

Staff Writer

All students have had the experience of going to respective basements or hallways when severe weather strikes. However, for some, the question still remains of what specifics should be done during severe weather.

Ryan Martin, assistant director of Housing, said that when keeping safe, the choice to go to a shelter lies with the individual.

"Nothing replaces the value of personal common sense and self-preservation involved in making a personal choice to seek shelter when you hear the tornado siren go off. A tornado warning is not a mandatory evacuation as in a fire alarm. If a resident chooses to stay in their room or seek shelter it is ultimately up to them," Martin said.

A resident assistant's responsibility during a tornado is to supply additional information of the warning to students and provide assistance at the designated shelter sites.

"When there is a tornado warning, the hall staff will try and notify as many residents as possible by knocking on doors and [telling people] where to seek shelter. You have to remember that RAs are students just like you. They are not trained emergency personnel," Martin said.

Martin said that the tornado warning that occurred on Homecoming weekend was no different. Despite the fact that, initially, the weather was not expected to be severe and there were no watch issues for the area, the majority of Housing staff and students alike responded as they should.

"The staff that I observed were doing exactly what they were

supposed to do. I was really proud of the residents, for how they reacted during the surprise tornado warning," Martin said.

What position should students take, however?

Students are advised to familiarize themselves with severe weather procedures and to find out where shelter locations in Housing are on campus through their RAs or following directions on evacuation signs on the back of every door. Residents of Browning, Cooper and Ellington are required to go to their respective basements. University Village I residents should seek shelter in the interior walled section of their apartments while University Village II students are asked to report to the first floor hallways and stay away from the lobbies and windows.

"Residents need to educate themselves and learn the appropriate shelter areas on campus. If we all work together, we can stay safe in the event that a tornado hits our campus," Martin said.

Martin also suggests that students download free services on their smartphones that alerts them when severe weather strikes.

"There are several free services that will also send you weather warning texts and email services. I encourage everyone to sign up for those so they can have another avenue for being aware of what is going on," Martin said.

Martin said that students should exercise caution with tornado weather.

"The one thing we would like to remind everyone is that tornados are extraordinarily unpredictable. If a warning has been issued for our campus, you should seek shelter immediately and never assume that nothing is going to happen," Martin said.

News

Alerting Students: Importance of emergency text messages

Joel Sissman

Staff Writer

It's that time of year again. The seasons are shifting and the air is cooling as students are strapping in for final leg of the semester. With the change in seasons, some students and faculty alike are concerned with how to get their information when severe weather strikes.

UTM has an emergency text messaging system available for students, faculty, staff and others who want to be updated about severe weather and other emergencies that may have an effect on UTM.

Several students signed up for the service were concerned when tornadoes traveled through Northwest Tenn. on Oct. 5, which was a day filled with many Homecoming events.

Around 7 p.m. Oct. 5 a tornado warning was issued for Dyer country for severe weather that was quickly heading towards Obion and western Weakly county. Tornadoes had been spotted in the midst of the storm.

"A tornado WARNING has been issued for Obion County and western Weakley County effective until 8:00 pm. Seek shelter immediately," the emergency text said.

An alert through the system wasn't sent out until 7:29 p.m., which concerned many students since severe weather was already in the immediate area. Doug Sliger, the Emergency Management Coordinator and Safety Specialist for UTM, felt as though the sirens for the Martin area were more of a precaution.

"For severe weather one thing empathized during our FYI Training is to encourage

With winter weather quickly approaching, here's a list of items to keep in your vehicle in case of an emergency:

1. Blankets



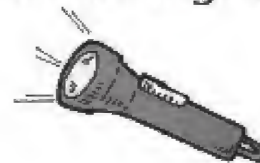
2. Jackets



3. Ice scraper



4. Flashlight



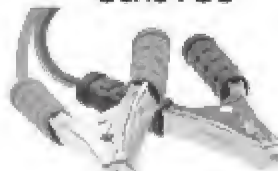
5. Matches



6. Bottled Water



7. Jumper cables



8. Adapter with outlets



9. Glowsticks



10. First Aid kit



The Pacer graphic

Pacer Graphic / Mary Jean Hall

students to opt into our emergency text messaging system, and that way they can receive a text message that either myself, the director of public safety, or the assistant director will send out a text message notifying those people that there is a tornado warning," Sliger said.

"I had been watching on the cell phone. It was a real small storm and it looked like it was going to miss us to the west, which it did. But it was little to close for comfort," Sliger said.

While the City of Martin issued their alerts through the sirens on campus at the same time as Dyer County warning, Sliger assures students that it was probably an extra way to give UTM students and faculty some extra time to seek shelter.

"The City of Martin might

have heard it was coming this way and tried to give us some extra time...it was coming, just a few minutes after it was announced on the weather radio I got on through the RAVE," Sliger said.

Sliger also complemented students on how well they responded to the surprise warning, especially in the Elam Center where they were holding the NPHC Step Show competition.

"I heard from several people that they had people in the safer areas within three or five minutes. In six minutes, everybody was there and in three minutes 95 percent of the people were there in the safer areas," Sliger said.

Ultimately the emergency text messaging system is there to help the students stay safe.

them on campus and distributed them, especially to housing and other building managers and also our dispatcher, who heard it immediately," Sliger said.

Sliger recommends that students and faculty prepare by becoming familiar with the maps of the academic buildings that list designated shelter zones throughout campus for tornados, fires, and other emergency situations.

"You don't want to be near any outside walls. Get to the basement or at the very least the lowest floor of the building," Sliger said.

Maps are also oriented to the hallways to further help students find out where they are in relation to the shelter areas.

"They're new. We've started them about a year ago, and few months ago we got them in the Fine Arts building when it was completed," Sliger said.

Sliger further recommends that students invest in weather radios and tune into Weakley County, or look into available smartphone applications online to give them further notification of the approaching storms.

"You can get free apps on your cell phone and they will give you a warning signal within just a couple of minutes after the weather radio announces a tornado warning," Sliger said.

"I think the quicker that you get any type of warning, and the sooner you get that word, the better. Not only should you opt into the text messaging system, but absolutely get that thing (application) on your cell-phone where you get the earliest kind of notification for a tornado warning," Sliger said.

When a tornado for the Martin area has been spotted by a storm spotter or by the National Weather Service, Public Safety has one of the dispatchers send out a text message through their system that will reach everyone who has opted into it. All of this can happen within minutes of the initial warning being sent out.

"We access it by computer... it notifies everybody that has opted into it, and right now there's about 8,000 text messages that it sends within just two or three minutes," Sliger said.

Other methods that Public Safety uses to get their information sent out to other departments and building managers about severe weather include weather radios.

"We bought three or more of

News



Photo Credit/Recyclingworksma.com

Students reduce, reuse, recycle through UTM Recycling Center

Tammy Jo Stanford

Guest Writer

UTM is trying to do its part to keep the campus and surrounding community clean and environmentally friendly.

The easiest way to support these efforts is to recycle, and there are numerous ways to help.

Recycled goods can be dropped off in many areas on campus, and the UTM Recycling Center will take care of the rest. Every building at UTM has a paper, plastic and aluminum bin to place trash in. The Recycling Center is located at the end of Moody Avenue in the former National Guard

building, and recycling can be placed in the cages in the front of the building, or, if assistance is needed, a representative at the center will be glad to help.

However, a few restrictions exist concerning the types of items that UTM can accept for recycling. Plastics, clear and colored, are fine (i.e. drink bottles, milk jugs, and laundry detergent bottles) to recycle. Wal-Mart bags and any similar type of grocery bags are allowed.

The center can accept "E-waste," which is anything that plugs into a wall, as well as aluminum, scrap metal, cardboard, paper, books, ink cartridges, shrink wrap, glass, tin cans and even car bumpers.

Items that the center cannot accept include televisions, plastic

foam, rubber, wood or vinyl siding.

A few simple steps that students can take to conserve energy and help the environment include turning off lights when leaving a room as well as turning off computers. One can conserve paper by writing on both sides of the page; about 42 percent of waste in landfills is paper. Not using cardboard or paper cups and buying recycled products can also help reduce waste.

Ways that the community can help keep the town clean include dropping off recycling at trailers located behind Westview High School, Martin Middle School and Martin Elementary School.

On Monday, Oct. 21, the UTM Recycling Center took

part in a contest sponsored by the State of Tennessee called the "Recycle Bowl." This yearly contest pits schools throughout the state against each other with the school collecting the most recycling winning.

"I will keep track of the weight of the recycled trash for all of the schools who participate in the contest. In Weakley County, Dresden Middle School is edging out Martin Middle School by less than 100 pounds," said Mike Davis, coordinator of the Recycling Center.

Another event that helps raise recycling awareness is the "Martin Beautiful" contest, which is also held every year. This event involves Martin residents as well

as UTM student organizations, fraternities and sororities.

"This event is another way that the university community and the Martin community can work together to help keep our town clean, both in and around UT Martin," Davis said.

Davis encourages students who want to complete community service hours or anyone else who would be interested in volunteering to come to the Recycling Center during its regular hours of operation.

The UTM Recycling Center hours of operation are Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Saturday - Sunday 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Davis can be reached at 731-881-7640 or wdavis11@utm.edu.

Haslam's 'Drive to 55' pushes for secondary education

Bradley Stringfield

Managing Editor, Online Sports Editor

Currently Gov. Bill Haslam's "Drive to 55" campaign is in full swing and if it does what is intended, it will help keep more people in Tennessee and will provide more jobs for those residing in Tennessee.

"We want Tennesseans working in Tennessee jobs," Haslam said earlier this year.

"We want Tennesseans to have an opportunity to get a good job and for those in the workplace to

be able to advance and get an even better job."

Haslam added that only 32 percent of Tennesseans have completed a level of post-secondary education and that to keep up with the demand for jobs, that number will need to be up to at least 55 percent by 2025.

"It's really focused on work force development," said UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes.

"When plants and companies come to an area, they look at how solid of a work force you have and how well educated you are."

There's much more to this campaign than simply getting

more people in school; it's about creating more jobs.

"If you raise the education level, whether it's a certificate or anything else, that increases the opportunities for the people in the state," Rakes said.

"It brings in more money to the state and brings in more businesses and creates more jobs.... When I was in Louisiana, they were working on a lot of new oil platforms and they needed 100 welders. Two-thirds of them had to be recruited from out of state because they didn't have them in-state."

Granted, Rakes only noted 100

jobs that Louisiana lost, but that is only one example.

"If we had a degree or certificate for every high school graduate from now until 2025 we couldn't make the 55 percent," Rakes said.

"We've got to go back and expand beyond high school graduates. We've got thousands of people that started college and never finished, started programs and never finished, and it's difficult to get them back because they're working."

According to tn.gov, 940,000 people are currently living in Tennessee who hold some college

credit, but no degree. Currently, Tennessee is on track to reach 39 percent of the 55 percent goal by 2025, falling an estimated 494,000 people short.

In efforts to achieve the goal, Tennessee has spent \$16.5 million of this year's budget on equipment and technology related to work force development programs at Tennessee colleges of applied technology and community colleges. The state also created a new endowment of \$47 million to provide nearly \$2 million each year to scholarship programs such as tnAchieves.

News

What exactly is Social Security?

Maigan Bradbury

Guest Writer

Many college students wonder about their financial futures and how they will make it through the first five to 10 years out of college. One thing most don't think or know much about is social security and its benefits.

Social Security is defined as the "Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) federal program." In other words, it is something that the older generation worries about a lot more than the younger generation.

Savannah Lee, a 22-year-old senior Health and Human Performance major at UTM, says she isn't really sure what Social Security is or how it works. She just knows that it benefits people after they retire. Lee is not the only person her age who doesn't know much about this topic.

Those who have jobs already know about taxes being taken out of their checks, and they get it back between the beginning to middle of every year. Younger people, such as high school or college age, might not consider the other money that is being taken out. With social security, the young adult might not get it back as soon, but he or she will eventually. In the United States, Social Security's source is payroll tax, which is taken by the Internal Revenue Service, otherwise known as the IRS.

A major Social Security program is Medicare, which is a way for citizens 65 and older to access health insurance. Ann Studards, 75, of Medina draws Social Security and also has Medicare. She worked for 50 years, paid Social Security the whole time and now she depends heavily on it.

"Social Security makes it difficult to plan your future. You have to plan your money wisely," Studards said.

Studards went on to explain that if it weren't for her Social Security and her deceased husband's retirement, she wouldn't be able to survive.

Young people should not get Social Security and retirement confused. They both are very important for the future and come out of the earnings from the job or career of the person, but Social Security is through the government.

Even though retirement is another program from Social Security, it is drawn through the actual company or business someone has worked for. According to a focus group of people 65 and up, it is smart to start both of these earlier.

John Paul Pannell, a 22-year-old Marketing major at UTM, feels that Social Security is misused by the government and older generations are benefiting from it, but younger generations are not.

"The government is so busy paying off debt, by the time we are old enough to draw Social Security, there won't be any money left for us," Pannell said.

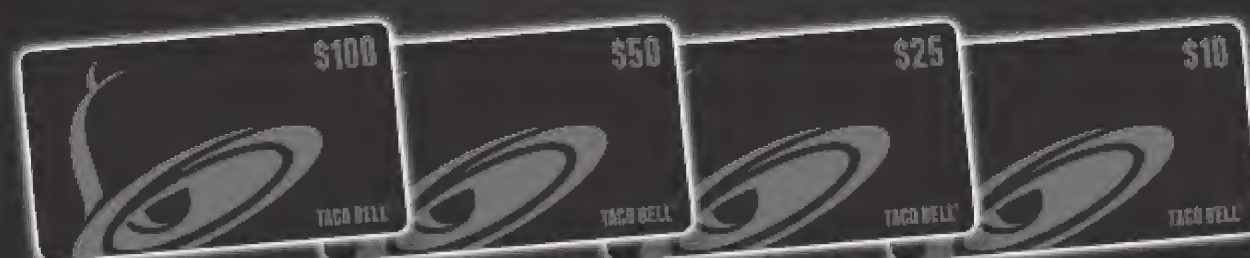
Although some may think he has a good point, Studards has a different outlook because she is from an older generation.

"Nobody needs to complain about having to pay this now while you're young. First of all, they should think of it as helping their grandparents or elders. Second, they may need it to survive one day," Studards said.

Social Security is seen and used from both sides in some way. Ultimately, it can benefit college students to begin thinking about Social Security and its benefits in the long run. Even though the younger generation isn't known for being very patient, especially when it comes to money, they will see the benefits when it is time for their earnings to be acquired later on.

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News

MBA program prepares students for careers

Diamond Adams

Spirit Writer

The Master of Business Administration, MBA, general program is offered through the College of Business and Global Affairs. It is a graduate degree that is open to all majors who have a Bachelor's degree from any four-year college or university.

The MBA's goal is to prepare students for mid to upper level careers in management or business. The MBA program aims to benefit those with an undergraduate degree and at least two years of work experience who want to advance in their careers. The program is also designed for full-time employees.

UTM's MBA program was originally designed to prepare undergraduate business majors for a deeper understanding of

business. The program is widely recognized for its professionalism. It was ranked number five on OnlineMBA.com. The online program itself has been noticed for its quality and has been ranked tenth in the nation by U.S. News and World Report. The program also has a top 20 Best Buy national ranking by GetEducated.com, and UTM was ranked number three nationally in AffordableCollegesOnline.org.

To be a part of UTM's MBA, a student needs to apply at least a year in advance through the graduate studies office. There is also an online program, which is for new undergraduate students, and it is geared more towards those who work.

The requirements include having a 2.0 GPA along with an updated resume. A student must take an admissions test, which is similar to the ACT test that is given

to undergraduates. Also, a \$30 application fee must be paid.

The MBA program includes the practice of skills such as critical thinking, leadership, teamwork and other skills. The MBA learning goals include being able to effectively communicate, having an understanding of business functions and being able to be an analytical thinker.

"I think it's key that they can start any time: fall, spring [or] summer. [They] can start any pace they want as long as it's within the six years," MBA adviser Kevin Hammond said.

Hammond also said that a full time student can complete the program within three or four semesters, if summers are included, and a part-time student can complete the program anywhere from five to six years. Any student can take up to six years in total to complete the program.

Spring 2014	
COURSE	MARTIN
Fin 710 (4 hr.)	Monday 5:25 – 9:00
Acct 711 (4 hr.)	Wednesday 5:25 – 9:00
Mgmt 710 (4 hr.)	Tuesday 6:00 – 9:35
Mgmt 790 (3 hr.)	Thursday 6:50 – 9:25
BADM 722 (1 hr.)	Tuesday 5:00 – 5:50
Elective	
IS 761 (3 hr.)	Thursday 4:00 – 6:35

Hammond advises students entering the MBA program. To learn what foundation courses will be needed, a student can refer to the online university catalog for the 2013-14 year. For information about the MBA program, go to www.utm.edu/mba.

24-hour ticketing policy enforced, not new

Malorie Paine

Managing Editor, Print

Students and faculty alike believe they've seen an increase in the number of parking tickets issued by the UTM department of Public Safety recently.

However, Director Scott Robbins and Captain Ray Coleman say the parking regulations are the same as they have been for a long time.

"Our parking regulations were passed on June 28, 1969," Robbins said.

"... I believe one of the first things in the parking guidelines is that if you are affiliated with the university, you have to have a parking permit."

While Public Safety says the enforcement of the regulations has been the same for years, UTM Chair of Music Dr. Elaine Harriss disagrees.

"I've seen the increase over several semesters. I became aware of such when I saw someone ticketing in

a lot at 9 at night. There were few cars there. I even asked them why they were ticketing," Harriss said.

Coleman says he has been with the university for 31 years, and the regulations have been the same for the duration.

Many are unhappy with 24-hour parking and believe this is a "waste of resources" on the university's behalf.

"I consider it a waste of human resources to monitor lots during hours when there is no competition for spaces. It is also an unfortunate way to antagonize guests, taxpayers and UTM supporters," Harriss said.

It has been UTM's policy that all faculty, staff and students display a parking permit each semester on the windshield of their vehicles. Passes are required to park in any lot on campus.

"All motor vehicles operated by faculty, staff and students in connection with their employment or attendance at [UTM] but is not limited to, residents of Grove

and University Courts Apartments who use [UTM] parking lots. For purposes of these regulations, a motor vehicle is operated by a faculty member, staff member or student if the vehicle is being used to transport the faculty member, staff member or student to the [UTM] campus," according to the Basic Regulations for UTM Parking guidelines.

Coleman says the department has not changed the regulations, but they do want to be fair to every student. Tickets are given 24 hours a day, because according to the parking regulations guidelines, registration is always required.

"A lot of people think we don't write tickets after 5 p.m.; well, of course we do. What is different than taking a night class versus a day class? We want to be fair to everyone," Coleman said.

Although tickets will be given at any time during the day or night to students, faculty and staff, visitors to campus will still be safe from ticketing, provided they follow the

basic parking regulations.

"If [visitors] receive tickets and they send them in, we verify they are visitors, and we just void the ticket; that's the only way we know who is a visitor and who is a student," Coleman said.

Harris believes that while Public Safety says visitors are exempt from having to pay their parking tickets, many become aggravated with the process.

"Though tickets say guests do not have to pay, I have observed over the years that guests do not read that and become agitated and upset. My response is to take the ticket and assure them as guests they do not have to pay," Harriss said.

Because many members of the community use various buildings on campus for meetings, athletic events or recreation, the Department of Public Safety tries to work with organizations to ensure they do not receive unnecessary tickets.

"We want to encourage people

to come to campus, but we want to make sure [we are] fair, if they are supposed to have a sticker," Coleman said.

Coleman says that the department works with the university on all dates where major events or group meetings will be held on campus. Tickets are not given on these dates for failure to register.

"If we have a mass athletic event or mass group meeting in the UC, we just don't issue tickets for not having a sticker. We still enforce yellow curbs, fire-lanes or handicap. We don't write tickets for that reason because it's an administrative thing so there's no need to write them if there's a big event on campus. We want to work with them," Coleman said.

Visitors can obtain a temporary pass from the department to prevent the possibility of receiving a ticket. The temporary pass is provided at no charge.

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News

Bookstore, from Cover

magazines and newspapers.

"We are getting special requests for comic books, magazines and national newspapers in the store. If there is something you cannot locate, please ask us and we can special order it for you," Burton said.

Conley said that student participation was successful.

"There was standing room only in the first meeting. We were impressed with the turnout and participation of the students. We want to get feedback on what the students want the area to look like," Conley said.

John Abel, director of the UC, said that it was a good place for students to voice their opinions.

"Student's voices are definitely heard in this arena," Abel said.

Several questions were asked at the meeting with regard to tuition increases, whether the game room space would be used and special ordering requests.

"The game room is not being taken away and there will be no increase in tuition for students with this relocation. Since Barnes and Noble is a third party contractor, we shoulder the responsibility for costs," Conley said.

However, Burton said that the issue of the game room space may depend on the students' wishes, which is one reason why Barnes and Noble wants as much student input as possible.

"From what I understand Barnes & Noble Bookstore



Above is an artist's rendering of what the front of the new Barnes and Noble Bookstore might look like if it moves downstairs in the UC. All students who wish to offer input on the bookstore's plans need to contact manager Mara Burton via phone or email by the end of this week. | **Photo Credit/Barnes and Noble**

wants to move [downstairs] and use the [old gym] and the game room. From what I know, the game room will not be put anywhere else on campus," said Geronimo Garcia, a Biology major and student employee at the game room.

"We already get noise complaints, so we can't move it upstairs; the noise would be monstrous. The game room would basically be gone as soon as [Barnes & Noble] decides to move in," Garcia said.

"I've counted upwards of 50 people in here at any given hour during the day; during the majority of the day any where between 20-70 people can be in here at any given time," Garcia said.

"One time when we had a Super Smash Brothers tournament, I clocked 78 people in here," Garcia said.

Three students currently are employed at the game room.

"No one would have a place to just sit, relax and just hang out;

[the game room] is not geared toward anything specific, it's just about cutting loose, relaxing and just letting your mind go blank," Garcia said.

"It gets loud in [the game room] sometimes. I doubt Barnes & Noble would want their bookstore loud and noisy all the given day," Garcia said.

That scenario is possible if the game room stays in the UC, and if Barnes and Noble incorporates another of its ideas, which is a "Social Pod" area, which will

incorporate seating, electrical outlets and televisions for users.

Students at each of the focus groups were asked for input on seating selection, charging stations, worktables and color schemes and carpet selection for the area. There is a possibility of bringing in a Starbucks outlet for the area as well, once the final plans are drawn up, to lend a "bookstore ambiance" to the area.

Tickets, from Page 10

"We do not charge for visitor parking; there is no [official] registration for them," Coleman said.

However, for students, faculty and staff, to avoid receiving tickets, a parking permit can be purchased from Public Safety for \$60. The 2013-2014 pass can be used through the Summer 2014 term.

Other efforts to avoid ticketing can also be taken. Coleman recommends paying attention to posted parking signs and only

parking in designated areas.

"We enforce fire lanes; dorm parking is reserved for residents. Unless otherwise posted, staff lots open after 3 p.m. There are a

couple of staff lots with 4 and 5 p.m. times, so watch for those," Coleman said.

For students who have not yet purchased their passes, vehicles must be registered through banner. Passes can then be picked up from the Public Safety office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

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News

Discovery Park opening set for Nov. 1



Maigan Bradbury

Guest Writer

Nov. 1 is going to be the beginning of something big for not just Union City, but West Tennessee as well. One of the largest projects this area has seen will finally be accomplished.

Discovery Park of America began with two friends who had an idea back in 2007. The friendship became a partnership when they put their heads together to make their idea come to life. Robert Kirkland and Jim Rippy of Union City are now the founder and the CEO of Discovery Park. The duo wanted to find out how much the community wanted to be involved by inviting all of the people who were interested to meet at the Hampton Inn. There was an outstanding turnout of 250 people who were later named the "volunteer army."

The troops were divided into committees, which included UTM's very own Physics professor Dr. Michael Gibson and Geology professor Lionel Crews, that got together to determine what Discovery Park would have to offer. The plans were drawn, and in 2008, ground was broken on Everett Boulevard, down the road from the old Goodyear plant. The 50-acre attraction consists of historical buildings, gardens, a maze and great lawn, a log cabin settlement and a 100,000-square-foot Discovery Center.

The Discovery Center shows the vision of the volunteers in 10 galleries, which includes Children, Energy, Enlightenment, Military, Native American, Natural History, Regional History, Science, Space and Technology and Transportation. All of the galleries have something special to offer. For example, the Children's gallery has a giant human slide. The Regional History Gallery has aquariums and

Photo credit/Discovery Park

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talks about the history of Obion County and the surrounding areas. Also, there is Dinosaur Hall where there are 13 types of dinosaur skeletons. There are a few extras that people can do in Discovery Center as well, such as the Starship Theater, an earthquake simulator and a sight-seeing tower.

Mary Nita Bondurant, the Marketing Director has nothing but exciting things to say about the park. She explained that the main focus is education. There has been a lot of effort to make everything a more hands-on experience instead of a "normal" museum where people just look and can't touch.

"It is a unique, educational tourism venue. Even though the focus is education, people from all over the U.S. will come for experience and have a good time," Bondurant said.

She went on to explain what Discovery Park can offer UTM students. She elaborated on the great lawn. The event coordinator has big plans to have a lot of concerts, car shows and even an arts and crafts fair. Also, there is an outdoor dining area and a gift shop. Bondurant also explained that everyone will be able to enjoy the entire

place no matter what the age.

"Even though the human slide is in the Children's gallery, there will be a height limit, and there have been a few adults go down it screaming," Bondurant said.

Another way students can get involved is by interning. There are many different areas that offer internships at Discovery Park. For more information on interning, go to discoveryparkofamerica.com and look for the Education Director, Polly Brasher.

Discovery Park of America's slogan is "See Beyond." Kirkland and Rippey know that people wonder why they placed this project in rural West Tennessee in a cornfield.

"We want people to see beyond their current level of knowledge and to have the opportunity to see and experience things at Discovery Park that they might otherwise not have," Kirkland said.

Whether someone is into history, science, education or just fun, Discovery Park has it all. For more information, visit discoveryparkofamerica.com and see beyond.



(Top left) In Mill Ridge, there is a working water wheel. There will soon be live farm animals roaming that side of the park.

(Top right) The Stearman is shown flying over the rest of the military vehicles. There is a drone helicopter, and visitors can also go inside the large Marine helicopter.

(Above) There are 13 life-sized dinosaur skeleton replicas in Dinosaur Hall. This area will be used for events such as proms, class reunions and weddings.

(Left) The human slide was developed by the Education committee for Discovery Park and was made for all ages to use. | **Photo Credits/Maigan Bradbury, Discovery Park**

News

UT Junior College grad honored in Hall of Fame

Bud Grimes

University Relations

Friends and former staff members of 8th District U.S. Rep. Ed Jones gathered Oct. 4 to pay tribute to the late congressman and honor his induction into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame. Jones became only the 13th hall of fame member when he was elected in 2011.

A dinner was held in the UC where a large bronze plaque was displayed that will later reside in the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame collection. The collection is maintained by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at the Tennessee Agricultural Museum in Nashville.

Jones, a Yorkville native, earned a two-year degree in 1932 from UT Junior College, predecessor to UTM, and a bachelor's degree in 1934 from UTK. During his career, he served as a state dairy inspector, an agricultural agent for the Illinois Central Railroad, a farm radio host and was appointed Tennessee commissioner of agriculture under Gov. Gordon Browning.

Jones is probably best known for his service from 1969-89 as U.S. representative, and he remained active in his family's

farm throughout his career.

While in Congress, Jones was a senior member of the House Committee on Agriculture during a time of change in the agriculture industry and the institutions that supported it. Notable events that occurred during his career were the Farm Strike and Tractorcade to Washington, D.C., in the late 1970s, the financial struggles of the Farm Credit System, the regulation of the futures market, and the transition of the soil and water conservation programs.

Anthony Haynes, UT System vice president for government relations, emceed the dinner and reminded the audience of the "Ed Jones is My Congressman" slogan used by the popular U.S. representative at election time.

"If you were running for office ... you wanted your signs as close to his as possible," he said. "Ed Jones was to retail politics what (coach) 'Bear' Bryant was to college football."

UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed the crowd of Jones friends, supporters and former staff members.

"I would argue that we have the strongest undergraduate agriculture programs in the state," he said. Rakes pointed to the university's agriculture-



related outreach, including the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex, the West Tennessee Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and the new veterinary health technology program, as examples of commitment to the agricultural industry and education.

Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture Julius Johnson, who knew Jones during his career with the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, commended Rakes and others in attendance "for helping to bring attention to one of Tennessee's agriculture true treasures, Congressman Ed Jones."

"I think it's appropriate that the university is building upon his legacy in agriculture through the Ed Jones Distinguished Lecture Series and scholarship fund," Johnson said. "I know Congressman Jones would certainly be proud."

The original Ed Jones Distinguished Lecture Series

began in 1989 at the university, and Jones actively supported the series until it ended in 1995. A lead gift of \$12,500 in June from Farm Credit Mid-America was the first step toward endowing the lecture series, which will now include the congressman's late wife's name and be called the Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series.

Commenting on the congressman's induction into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame, Johnson added, "He certainly left his mark on our nation's agriculture and is responsible for championing many of the programs in conservation, farm finance and risk management that we now take for granted. Through it all, Mr. Jones never lost sight of his life's mission to improve the livelihood of farmers and the lives of rural Americans."

Former U.S. Rep. John Tanner, who succeeded Jones in his congressional seat and served 11



Congressman Ed Jones as pictured in the 1932 edition of *The Volunteer Junior*. | Photo Credit / *The Volunteer Junior*

terms, was the event's keynote speaker.

"I never heard anybody say anything but that Mr. Ed Jones was a gentleman," Tanner said. "Whatever his politics were, whatever he stood for, he was a gentleman."

"And beyond that, he had a vision for the future. He understood that for this country to be strong and free, you had to have investment, public investment, in infrastructure. ... And he was pretty keen on a pretty robust agricultural policy as well."

Tanner recognized and thanked those who worked for Jones and the people of the 8th Congressional District.

"I think he would be so proud to know that this network (of people) still exists," he said.

Dr. Jim Culver, president, CEO and director of VVC Exploration Corp. and a former congressional aide to Jones, offered highlights from the late congressman's life. He noted that Jones did many things in his career, "but through all of what he did in life, Ed Jones was always a farmer, and he always felt like he was a farmer."

"Working for him was the highlight of my career," Culver said.

Donations can be made to the Ed Jones Gift Fund, which supports the university's Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series. Contact the UTM Office of Development, 329 Hall-Moody Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238, or call 731-881-7620. Gifts to the lecture series fund can also be made online at www.utmforever.com/jones.



(From left) Dick Barber, Kathy Becker, Mary Jane McWherter, Kelly Sharbel, Jim Johnson and Bettye Ellis served as members of Jones' congressional staff. | Pacer Photos / Mary Jean Hall

Arts & Entertainment

LSA hosts Art Day for Ripley High School

Addy Wood

Guest Writer

Deciding where to attend college and what major to be are two of the most difficult decisions a student can make. The members of LSA, League of Striving Artists, are trying to help make that decision less daunting for the students of Ripley High School.

For the first time, Ripley High School hosted a Ripley Art Day at UTM to allow the high school students to experience a college art class and explore their interest in attending UTM.

The students were asked to do an assortment of different workshops. One workshop allowed the students to participate in figure drawing paired with wire sculpture.

Cat Hoffa, a senior Art Education major who worked with the high school students, thought the students did well in the workshops.

"All the kids did an excellent job recognizing anatomy and proportions. They were really



UTM LSA members and Ripley High School students with their teachers pose for a photo during the Ripley Art Day. | **Photo Credit/ Melanie O'Neil**

awesome kids, and we were sad to see them leave," Hoffa said.

The next workshop included pottery and clay that branched from a 2-D design project the students did.

Kain Whitehouse, a junior at Ripley High, enjoyed experiencing clay.

"Ripley High doesn't have

clay, so I've never gotten to use it. I really like working with it, and I really enjoyed my day here," Whitehouse said.

After the students completed their workshop, a few of them got to use the new pottery wheels in the newly renovated Fine Arts Building. Those who did not work with the

pottery wheels were given the opportunity to use their creativity to make anything out of the clay.

"The students were really excited to work with the wheels, something we wouldn't be able to do without this new building. I could see the kids were really engaged in learning,

and this is knowledge that [they] can take back with them to Ripley," said Melanie O'Neil, a junior Graphic Design major, who worked Ripley Art Day.

Afterward, all the students gathered on the Fine Arts patio to share their artwork with their classmates and their Ripley art teachers. Nikki Gentry and Kelli Hytinen, art teachers at Ripley High School enjoyed being with their students at UTM.

"We both are UTM alumni, and we loved getting to see the new facility for the first time. It's great having the UTM Ripley Art Day, because our kids get to handle materials our school doesn't have, and they get to experience a great college," Hytinen said.

The League of Striving Artists, were pleased with how successful Ripley Art Day was. They hope to hold this event for high school students at Ripley in the future to encourage young adults to be passionate about the arts and to consider UTM when they are deciding on colleges.

How-to: Use coffee filters in many ways

Courtney Pearson

Staff Writer

With ruffled edges and a thin, workable center, coffee filters are the ultimate go-to for any college kid in need. From cleaning up messes on a kitchen counter to tearing off strips for waxing eyebrows, these little white wonders are both affordable and convenient.

If you have a bit of a green thumb, you may find them helpful for your gardening.

For example, to help sprout seedlings you can dampen a coffee filter and put the seeds of your choice in the center of the filter. Fold the filter over and place it

into a plastic bag. Put the plastic bags into a warm area, but not too warm or you'll risk baking the seeds. Blow air into the bag to help speed up the germination process. Within a few days, the water will evaporate and form a sort of greenhouse effect for the filter. Before you know it, you'll have little sprouts of life peeking out of the coffee filter, all ready to be transplanted.

You can also use a coffee filter to align the bottom of a pot to save dirt and water from seeping out through the drainage holes.

Not only do coffee filters possess practical uses, such as dusting computer screens and holding popcorn for a perfectly portioned

late night snack, they are also super helpful for creating crafts.

With Halloween lurking right around the corner, coffee filters are perfect for crafting spooky Halloween spider webs. All you do is fold the filter in half and cut out shapes to make it into a perfectly spun spider home. You can even lace them together to create a Halloween Garland—a thrifty idea for decorating your dorm door. You can also dye them for a look of fall foliage decoration or fold a bunch together and create a Halloween wreath.

The possibilities are endless. All you need is a little imagination, some scissors and of course, coffee filters.



Coffee filters have many uses, one of which can be to make spider webs. | **Pacer Photo/Courtney Pearson**

Arts & Entertainment

Review: Classic horror never dies

John Nicholson

Staff Writer

That time of the year is once again upon us. The leaves are blowing in the wind, the air is chilly and the jack-o'-lanterns are scaring away ghouls on front porches. Of course, I'm referring to one of the most beloved holidays, Halloween.

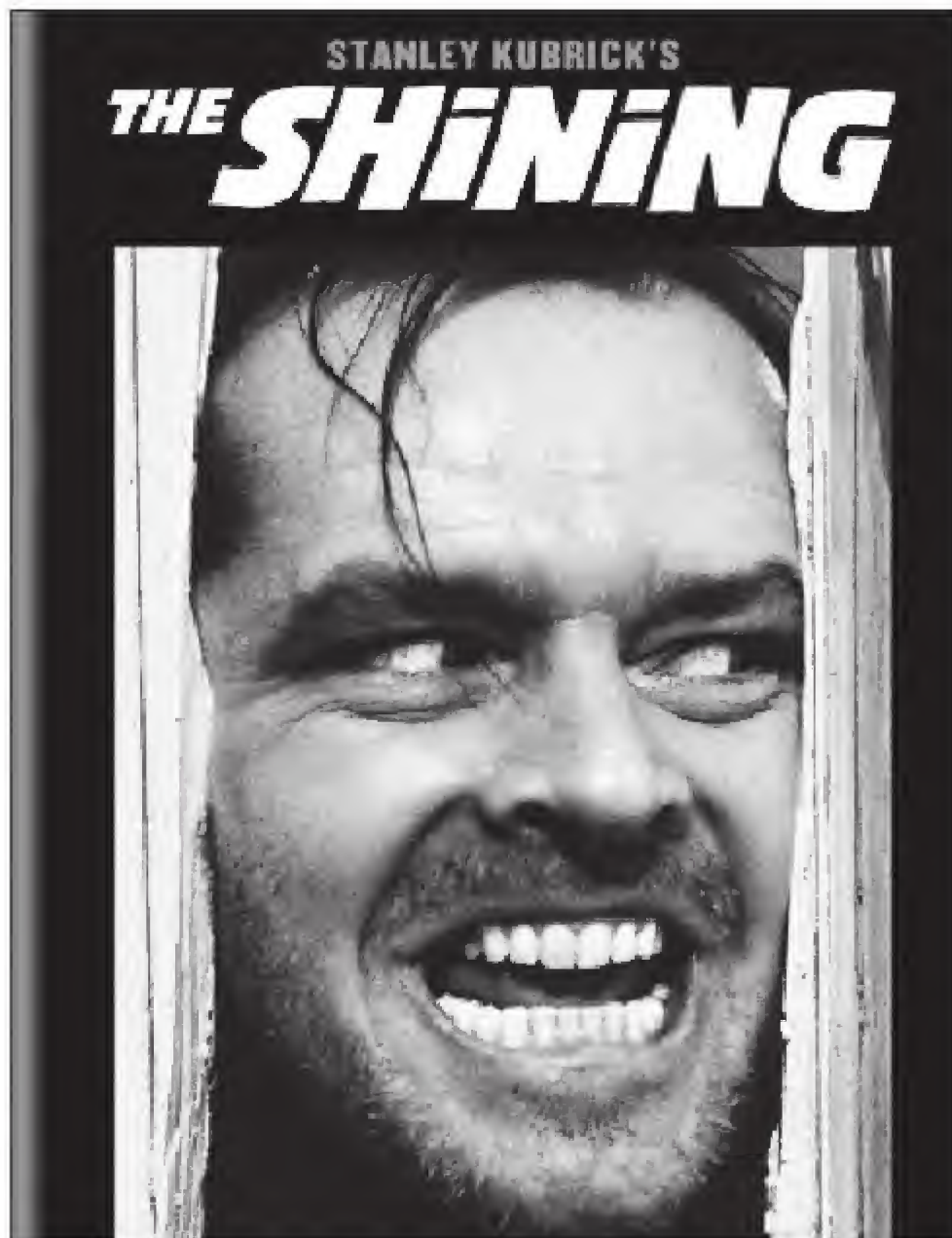
Halloween is a wonderful time of the year to dress up as someone or something else and scare the living daylights out of the unsuspected, even if it's just for one night. Children will gladly go from house to house begging for candy, and college-aged kiddos will enjoy costume parties and tend to be a little crazy.

I love the holiday for many reasons, from the costumes and candies to the season and atmosphere that it brings. Most of all, I love scary things. Among those scary things are horror movies. It seems like every year a movie studio has come out with what they hope will be the next big horror film. Some of them are good and some of them fail completely.

Right now I'd like to go back to a time where horror was at its peak and still continued to resonate in our nightmares. You should, if you have not already, watch the films I'm about to mention on or around Halloween night. Fill yourself with terror and good chills to keep you looking over your shoulder throughout the night.

The first film on my list is one that really perfected the slasher genre. I'm talking about the original *Halloween* (1978).

Halloween is one of the best horror films to this day. It tells the story of a young girl, Laurie Stroud, who is thrust into a cat-and-mouse chase with her psychotic older brother, Michael Myers. The film was written and directed by horror icon John Carpenter, who will make another appearance on



this list. This film stands as one of the scariest movies to date because it deals with a very scary idea, a typical teenage girl in a babysitting job who starts getting stalked by a murderous psychopath.

Continuing the tour of horror classics, *The Exorcist* (1973) set the bar pretty high early on.

The Exorcist, to this day, still gives me the willies when I watch it. In this original demonic possession film, a young girl is possessed by the devil and two priests come to the aid of the innocent child. It had visual effects that were brilliant for the time it was made and stands as one of the scariest possession films of all time. In an age where a new possession comes out every three months, that's saying something.

Next there's one of my favorites, *A Nightmare on Elm Street* (1984).

If you know me, you know I love this series. Freddy Krueger has continued to haunt my dreams, no pun intended, since I was a child. This film is written and directed by Wes Craven; it tells the story of a small community that starts seeing bizarre deaths of many teenagers. It's not long until our protagonist, Nancy Thompson, figures out these deaths are all linked by the same cause, a former child killer Freddy Krueger. He was hunted down by the parents of the town and burned alive. Now, much like the old story of the Pied Piper, he has returned to take his vengeance on the children of Elm Street by killing them when they are most vulnerable, in their dreams.

The next chiller on the classic horror list is *Friday the 13th*



Review: 'Gravity' grabs audience's attention

Joel Sissman

Staff Writer

Space Cowboys and *Apollo 13*, watch out; Alfonso Cuarón's *Gravity* takes audiences for a ride to hell and back.

Imagine sitting in the theater and watching the majestic view of Earth from space. It is so quiet that nobody can hear anything except for the sound of people eating popcorn. Gradually, the audience starts to hear voices as the crew of the space shuttle *Explorer* comes into view, working on their final spacewalk before disaster strikes.

This is how the film *Gravity* starts up, quickly grabbing the audience's attention from the dead cold of space. The film is directed by *Harry Potter*'s Alfonso Cuarón and stars Sandra Bullock and George Clooney, respectively Dr. Ryan Stone and Lt. Matt Kowalski, as they attempt return back to Earth.

Without giving too much away to interested viewers, *Gravity* uses the elements of the sheer silence of space and survival. Plus, the film offers a recurring theme of rebirth to create a film that takes viewers on a roller coaster to show the lessons of living for the moment and enjoying life.

One of the recurring themes that is seen throughout the movie is Bullock's character

slowly being reborn as she loses her child and learns how to let go of the past and stand on her own two feet.

For instance, at the start of the film, Stone is in her spacesuit tethered to Kowalski as they cling for survival after disaster strikes their repair mission. With nobody else to rely on, they must make the choice to cut their bonds in order for one of them to survive. The suit itself also acts a womb; Stone must shed her past in order to escape after she finds the renewed will and strength to do so.

Another element that recurs throughout the film is the sheer silence of the soundtrack itself. Aside from the characters speaking themselves or in certain interior shots before the end of the film, the only noise heard is muffled sounds that the characters make as the vacuum of space drowns them out. This cleverly adds to the realism of the film and helps reiterate the idea of being helpless in the coldness of space.

These themes of silence, survival and rebirth come together and act as a catalyst to viewers, inspiring them to live for the moment and overcome the challenges of grief and self-doubt. Should you live for the moment and go see this movie? Why not? Because as the last line of the film says, "Either way, it will be one hell of a ride."

Arts & Entertainment

Column: Creating Halloween costumes on a budget

Becca Partridge

Arts and Entertainment Editor

With Halloween right around the corner, everyone is desperately attempting to figure out what costume they will wear this year. Many ask, "How can I top last year's costume without breaking the bank?"

Never fear, I am here to share with you how to have a top-of-the-line Halloween costume without paying top-of-the-line costume prices.

When Halloween season arrives each year, people begin to scramble for a costume. They flood stores such as Party City and Halloween Express, hoping to find an original costume that will make them stand out from the crowd.

My question is how do you expect to have an awesome, original costume when you are shopping at the same stores as everyone else?

You just can't. Sure, you can go spend \$50 on a generic, overused "sexy cop" costume that barely covers your body, or you could branch out and come up with something original.

When asked, a number of UTM students had great ideas on being thrifty while still impressing the crowds.

If you're looking for an outfit that plays on words, take some tips from Chelsey Box, a senior Biology major.

"I was once a hippie and my friend was a mime. We were peace and quiet," Box said.

If you're leaning more towards an expressive costume, consider an idea from Coleen Hunt, a recent UTM graduate.

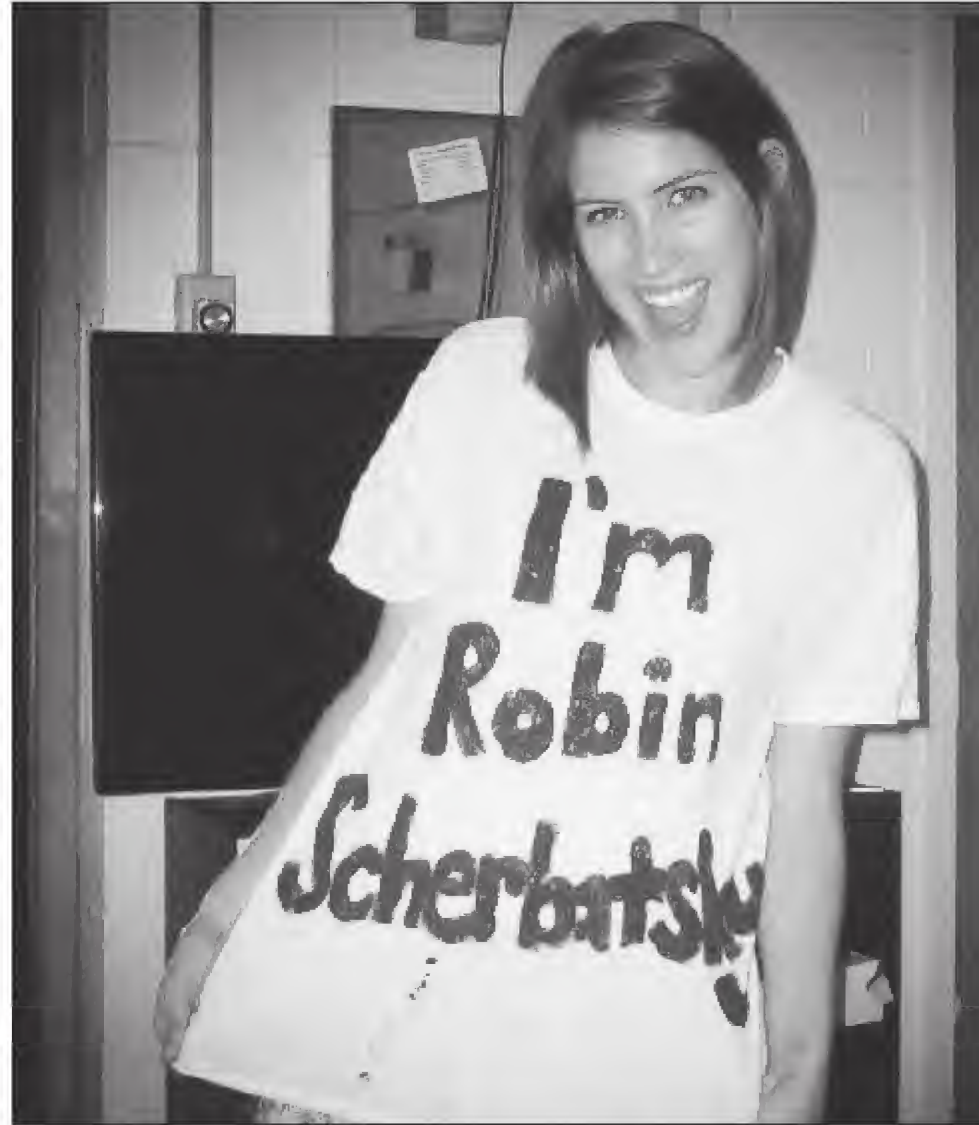


Jonathan Fisher, a senior Communications major, poses as Quailman during his freshman year at UTM. | **Photo Credit/ Kandi Horton**

"Be Picasso's Rose and Blue periods. Just dress head to toe in pink or blue and do a little abstract face painting," Hunt said.

The trick, pun intended, to finding that perfect Halloween costume might just be hiding in your closet ... or your friend's closet. Ask your friends if they have any old Halloween costumes that you could borrow. Combine these with your old costumes to make a completely fresh look.

If all else fails, you can always grab a white T-shirt and a sharpie, and write your celebrity doppelgänger's name on it.



Katie Jarvis, a senior Communications major, poses in her Halloween costume last year as her celebrity look-alike Cobie Smulders' *How I Met Your Mother* character, Robin Scherbatsky. | **Pacer Photo/ Becca Partridge**



Savannah Lee, senior Health and Human Performance major; Maigan Bradbury, senior Communications major; and Ashlyn Barnes, senior Vet Tech major, pose as Three Blind Mice for Halloween. | **Photo Credit/ Nathan Smith**

Horror, from Page 16

horror list is *Friday the 13th* (1980).

Friday the 13th is where, I like to believe, a lot of horror movie clichés come from. The teenagers are alone in the woods, partying, having intimate encounters and drinking, which leads to their death. This film and its predecessors tell the story of a young mentally challenged boy who was bullied at Camp Crystal Lake and was neglected by fellow campers and counselors. This eventually led to his death; he drowned in the lake. In the first film, his mother goes on a rampage killing those counselors, and eventually he returns to continue his mother's work.

The next classic horror film is one of my favorites, *The Shining* (1980).

This film is based off the book by Stephen King and is directed by Stanley Kubrick. It is about a family who moves into the beautiful Overlook Hotel to watch over it in the coming winter months. Everything is going wonderfully until the father becomes insane, seeing the ghosts of the haunted hotel and attempting to kill his family. This film is creepy and takes the idea of "cabin fever" to a whole new level.

The last film I will mention is, probably, my ultimate horror film, *The Evil Dead* (1979).

The Evil Dead is one of the scariest films I've ever seen and has since become quite an obsession of mine. This movie, directed and written by Sam Raimi, tells the story of five college friends who travel to the hills of Tennessee to spend the week in a cabin. There, they find a book and tape recorder that tells about the evils that lay deep and dormant in the woods where they are staying. The book "Naturan Demonto," a Sumerian variation of the Book of the Dead, awakens that evil and one by one they are picked off, becoming possessed by the evil spirits known as "Deadites."

These are just a few of the films that I recommend you watch this Halloween; I could keep going, but for time and space I won't. These films are sure to make your skin crawl and sink the fangs of horror deep into your brain.

Features

UTM UNLIMITED

Couple spends lifetime together doing what they love

Lyndsay Riggs

Staff Writer

In 1967, 46 years ago, the chair of the Quinnipiac College's English Department gave Mary Ellen Duffley away to Robert "Bob" Cowser in New Haven, Conn.

Today, Duffley is better known on campus as English and Modern Foreign Language Instructor, Dr. Mary Cowser. Of course, her husband is English and Modern Foreign Language Adjunct Instructor, Dr. Robert Cowser.

The couple had met only six months before they married, when Bob Cowser began working at Quinnipiac, a nearby university in Hamden, as an English professor. Mary Cowser had already been working at the university for five years when Bob Cowser came along.

To some six months may be a short amount of time, but not to others.

"It depends on how you look at it. We were both...older," Mary Cowser said.

Mary Cowser grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, over 1,000 miles away from Bob Cowser, who grew up on a farm in Hopkins County, Texas. She received her Bachelor's degree in Medical Technology in 1958 from Marquette, a competitive, private university in Milwaukee, Wis.

She then went back home to Cleveland, where she worked in a hospital lab for two years before being offered a teaching position in Connecticut.

While teaching medical technology classes, Mary Cowser began taking English classes on the side at the University of Connecticut for the pure pleasure of it. When one of her professors, the same one who would eventually give her away at her wedding, told her she should be doing graduate level English, she decided to complete her Masters in English.

She then switched to the English department and began teaching the subject she loved. Teaching had never been her goal, however.

"I always enjoyed English. It was always my best and favorite class, but I was afraid I wouldn't be able to get a job doing anything but teaching and I thought I didn't want to teach. Proves how wrong you can be when you're young," Mary Cowser said.

Mary Cowser now advises students to be open-minded when choosing a career.

"Give yourself a chance to find out all the possibilities," Mary Cowser said.

Bob Cowser graduated with his Bachelor's degree in English at Texas A&M University in Commerce and with his Master's degree at the University of North Texas. After teaching high school in Big Sandy, Texas for a short duration, he went on to receive his PhD at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

He moved to Connecticut in 1966 for a change of scenery.

"I wanted the experience of teaching and living in a different part of the United States. I had been in Texas and Oklahoma for the entire time," Bob Cowser said.

After getting married, the couple did not stay in New Haven for very long. They moved to Martin in 1970.

"I was not teaching then because I had a 2-year-old. ... New Haven was in upheaval ... [due to] the Black Panther Society. One of their leaders had been arrested and charged for murder and was being tried in the city of New Haven. There was so much high feeling and anger over the whole situation that the city police shut down the Yale Medical Center [as well as other buildings], and I was pregnant to deliver a baby and couldn't go to the hospital I was supposed to go to. ... It was a very uncomfortable place to be living," Mary Cowser said.

Therefore, when a job opened up

for Bob Cowser at the UTM, he took it.

"The students at the college where we had been teaching went on strike, shut down the college. So [Bob] was ready to get out of New England," Mary Cowser said.

The couple had four children within five years: Mary, Bob, Jim and Ruth. When Mary Cowser was pregnant with their fourth and last child in 1973, she began her long career at UTM teaching part-time.

Later during the seventies, Mary Cowser served as an adviser for the Volunteer Service Bureau, a program at UTM. She assigned students to tutor kids at the local schools, visit people in the hospitals and even to transcribe the stories of the elderly at the nursing homes, a printed copy was later given to those who told the stories.

"Students found it so satisfying. They weren't paid anything by anybody, but they felt that it was such a useful thing to do with their time," said Mary Cowser.

For a short amount of time on the side, Bob Cowser taught at the Northwest Correctional Complex, where he instructed prisoners in composition and Southern literature. He felt that this, too, was a worthwhile program sponsored by the university.

Bob Cowser is also a published poet and writer of a few short stories, essays and plays. He often writes about nature, but he also writes short memoirs and historical essays about what he remembers from his childhood. He has several published online on the website, Texas Escapes.

"I began writing when I was past 50, which is kind of unusual. ... My son collected [some of my poems] in 1990 in [a book called] Backtrailing," said Bob Cowser.

Bob Cowser advises students to explore the arts and to give those subjects a chance no matter what their major is.

The couple's children are each



Dr. Robert "Bob" Cowser, English and Modern Foreign Language adjunct instructor and Dr. Mary Cowser, English and Modern Foreign Language instructor have been married for 46 years. | **Pacer Photo / Lyndsay Riggs**

located in different parts of the United States: New York, New Jersey, Missouri and Florida. One child, Bob Cowser, Jr, is a published author of four books, including Dream Season and Backtrailing, Bob Cowser's collection of poems.

They now have 10 grandchildren. The oldest is 14 and the youngest three are 8. The couple loves to travel, especially by train, to visit them, but lately they do not do so as often, because of health issues.

However, they do keep teaching. Bob Cowser has now been

teaching for 59 years along with his wife, who has been doing so for 53 years. Although, now they are both only part-time English professors, they expressed their desire to teach for as long as they are able to continue doing so.

"We both have been very blessed," Mary Cowser said.

Go to the photo gallery "Couple spends lifetime together doing what they love" at www.thepacer.net to view more photos of Mary Cowser and Bob Cowser.

Features

UTM UNLIMITED



Leader of the UTM WestStar Leadership Program Virginia Grimes and director of University Relations Bud Grimes have given 23 years of service to the UTM community. | **Pacer Photo / Sheila Scott**

Couple tirelessly give back to UTM community

Cameron Graham

Research Writer

When it comes to loyalty, education and community improvement, Bud and Virginia Grimes stand out, both holding prestigious positions here at UTM.

Bud Grimes, the current director of University Relations, pursued a career in communications with a clear sense of passion. After earning his Bachelors in Communications with a concentration in Broadcasting, the pursuit of a higher degree in the discipline was absolute. Grimes continued on to earn his Masters in Communications concentrating in Journalism at UTK.

Grimes held radio broadcasting

jobs in Clarksville and Mckenzie, but also utilized his particular set of skills in a variety of areas prior to accepting the University Relations position. His involvement in the UT system started across state, working in a communications position for the Institute of Agriculture at UTK.

One of his most iconic jobs, however, was his position at Pellissippi State Community College that allowed him to meet his future wife, Virginia Carpenter, a native of the Knoxville area and respected leader of the WestStar Leadership Program at UTM.

"We met each other at Pellissippi State, while we were both employed there," Virginia Grimes said.

The two eventually married and the couple moved to Martin in the fall of 1990. The move to West Tennessee was inspired by the position he now holds, and they find it humorously convenient concerning the location of their offices. WestStar's office is located on the third floor of the Hall-Moody Administration Building, just down the hall from the Office of University Relations.

"I started this job in Oct. 1990. Same job, same title ever since," Bud Grimes said.

Virginia Grimes has also remained with the same program, bringing enthusiasm and dedication each day. The couple also raised two children in the area, who both became members of the UTM community.

"I'm very glad to see our daughter Ashley so close to graduating, and our son Wesley started this fall. It's very nice to see them receive a quality education from here," Virginia Grimes said.

Both speak highly of the faculty and students, recognizing the diversity and efficiency of the university. Bud Grimes cherishes each and every day, remarking on the variation that comes with his job.

"Each day is different in my office; I absolutely love that," said Bud Grimes.

With 23 years of service to the UTM community, they have spent many long days organizing meetings and events. Despite all of this, they remain thankful for their roots and continue those

same traditions while serving the surrounding area. With their background, they remind students to also remember their homes during the pursuit of education and jobs.

"The community you grew up in needs you, too," said Virginia Grimes.

Both have unquestionably earned their respected positions at this institution and are valued members. Contributing to the power of education has been a lifelong conquest for them, and they continue loyally serving an area that has so much meaning for them.

Features

Logan Hughes, a UTM senior Computer Science major, pictured at right and below, and Daniel Fitzgerald, far right, manager of the Opera House restaurant in Martin, have left a legacy of laughter and love for others. | **Photos courtesy Facebook**



Men remembered for their kindness, laughter

Staff Reports

Two men who died in a motorcycle accident south of Martin Oct. 12 are being remembered as people who wouldn't want sadness to be their legacy.

On Facebook, in conversations and at their respective services, UTM student Logan Hughes, 23, of Newbern and Opera House restaurant manager Daniel Fitzgerald, 46, of Sharon have been memorialized as men who believed in laughter and love for others.

Hughes, a senior Computer Science major and member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, "was the kindest person I ever met," said Amanda Caudle, a Communications senior from Memphis.

"We love and miss Logan more than we can say, but we're trying to celebrate his life rather than focus on his death," Caudle said. "He was an amazing person and he wouldn't want us to be sad."

Caudle's sentiments echo in numerous posts.

"Nights like tonight are not fun but they are here to remind you of how strong a brotherhood we truly have. Seeing old faces and welcoming the new faces without missing a single step. Phi Alpha Logan Hughes Chapter Eternal has earned a True Gentleman with open arms. Proud brother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon-Fraternity," said alumnus Stephen Shopher.

Nikki Byrd Cunningham, an alumna, posted: "I held my husband a little tighter tonight; we both knew it would be hard to sleep. I woke with a heavy heart and memories of Logan on my mind. I'm so blessed to have my husband and daughter so close to me right now as I am hurting for the family and loved ones of Logan Hughes and all of the brothers of SAE. You guys are awesome and Logan was a shining example of that."

A memorial video of Hughes, who also was a server at the

Opera House, may be seen on YouTube by typing in "In Loving Memory of Logan Dale Hughes" in the search bar. Written underneath the video are words that embrace the thoughts and feelings of those who knew him:

"Logan was not only an amazing son and brother, but a beloved fraternity brother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at the TN Tau chapter at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Logan could brighten the mood of any room he was in, despite any circumstances. ... Rest in peace, brother. You will always be missed and loved forever."

At the public memorial for Fitzgerald, held Oct. 19 at the Opera House, tears and laughter flowed freely among the crowd.

"Daniel told me that I needed lipstick on the second day I was working here. He got me to do what my mother had been trying to get me to do for 18 years," said Erica Glisson, one of the Opera House servers who took turns telling their memories of

Fitzgerald during the private memorial that followed the public visit.

"We have truly lost a great person and friend of Martin," said Dr. Joe Adcock, who with his wife, Edith, owns the Opera House and The Stables in downtown Martin.

"Daniel was much more than an employee. He and my daughter, Olivia, envisioned the revitalization of Martin and believed the Opera House would begin the rebirth of historic downtown Martin. He worked tirelessly toward that goal.

"Daniel was not only a boss to his staff but their friend, confidant and psychologist. He will be missed by all of Martin," Adcock said.

Fitzgerald also was remembered on the Historic Martin Facebook page as a man who worked tirelessly for downtown Martin even though he was not a business owner.

"He loved the community. He supported the community. He

gave back to the community. He loved people. And he gave to people. With a smile and a helping hand. Daniel Fitzgerald was a leader in Martin's Historic Business District for the past several years and, with his death, the community loses a businessman like no other.

The energy and passion that he had for downtown ... cannot be duplicated. Always with a smile on his face, he promoted growth and progress with a never-ending determination.

He's gone in one way – but he's still with us ... tapping us on the shoulder and giving us his look, telling us to do ... and do with a smile."

Anyone who would like to contribute in Fitzgerald's memory may donate to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, where an account in Fitzgerald's name has already been established.

Sports

Former players exemplify FCS improvement

Matt Borden

Guest Writer

Hundreds of student athletes attend football camps each year with the dream of playing in the National Football League and after every spring semester, universities must recruit new players to make up for their graduating seniors.

Universities are divided by two categories, the FBS or FCS. The FBS stands for Football Bowl Subdivision, which features conferences such as the South Eastern Conference or the Big Ten. The most highly touted high school athletes traditionally attend an FBS school, because of immediate national exposure, as well as program tradition.

In more recent years, there has been an increase with players transferring to smaller

universities, and the once large gap between the FBS and FCS is slowly closing. FCS, or Football Championship Subdivision, is home to conferences such as the Ohio Valley Conference or the Missouri Valley Conference.

So far this season, eight FCS squads upset an FBS opponent. Some of the victims were top teams such as Kansas State and Oregon State. How is this possible? FBS teams have a deeper roster pool. They are able to offer 85 scholarships, compared to the FCS's 63, and the talent is better at an FBS university.

The student athletes who transfer from major FBS programs have a chance to become immediate game-changers for their new team.

In recent years, UTM has benefited from such individuals. Defensive lineman

Montori Hughes joined the Skyhawks from Tennessee and wide receiver Quentin Sims came from Georgia Tech; both have jumped from the Skyhawks to the NFL.

"Programs can tout all of the professionals they produce but it makes a huge difference if current players can identify with recent NFL players and physically see the results on paper," said UTM Sports Information Director, Ryne Rickman.

"UTM was fortunate enough to have two players in the NFL this year, and I see that trend absolutely continuing upward."

In recent years, the Ohio Valley Conference has consistently produced NFL-caliber talent. This past year, Montori Hughes and Alan Bonner were selected in the draft. Two current NFL players hailing from OVC schools

are Tony Romo, quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys, and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie, a cornerback for the Denver Broncos.

Teams use the NFL draft to help retool their team and build for not only the next season, but also the seasons to come. The draft is divided into seven rounds with 32 picks in each round to symbolize the 32 NFL teams. There are also compensatory picks awarded to teams who lost certain players through free agency that are added on at the end of each round.

This year, the FCS had 19 players selected in the draft, two of which represented the OVC.

"The impact of OVC players in the NFL is simple – credibility," said Joe Lofaro, University Relations Publication Specialist and sports advocate.

"If the OVC can put players in the NFL, then people will say that league must be good."

Having competitive university athletics does much more than just attract national attention to your program; it creates community involvement.

"The main influence is the word-of-mouth and buzz about our potential pros," said Rickman.

"There was a buzz around here when Montori Hughes and Quentin Sims were here. People love to watch good football and with good players like those two, it will attract a crowd. People will go out of their way to maybe skip watching a game at home on Saturday to come and watch a once-in-a-generation player represent UTM on the gridiron."

The Pacer Player of the Week

- Tallied her fifth shutout of the season against Belmont
- Recorded eight saves on the afternoon
- UTM's all-time leader in shutouts
- With the win, the team moves into a tie for first place in the OVC with Eastern Illinois



Photo Credit/Sports Information

Mariah Klenke

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Sports

Coaches' Corner: Jason Simpson views UTM as progression

Justin Glover

Staff Writer

The Skyhawks' football team has seen quite a bit of success over the last eight seasons. At the forefront of this success is head coach Jason Simpson.

In 2006, Simpson's first year as head coach, he led the Skyhawks to a 9-3 record. They capped off the season by winning the Ohio Valley Conference championship and finishing 13th overall. Simpson believes that this year's team shows several similarities to the team that won UTM's only OVC championship to date.

"In some spots, we're actually better," said Simpson. "I guess the difference is, the league's gotten better ... That team probably wouldn't win nine games [this season]."

Coach Simpson has certainly had plenty of opportunities to coach truly talented players. Most notable among these are defensive tackle Montori Hughes, currently a member of the NFL's Indianapolis Colts and wide receiver Quentin Sims, who after a brief stint with the Atlanta Falcons found himself on the New England Patriots' practice squad. Former quarterback Derek Carr, who attended a tryout with the Giants, returned to UTM and is currently working as a graduate assistant with the Skyhawks.

Simpson believes that it's up to both players and coaches when it comes to motivation.

"Everybody's got a different thing that motivates them, and I'm proud of our coaches. We provided those players those opportunities," said Simpson.

Simpson started coaching at Delta State in 1995 as a defensive backs coach. Prior to accepting his current position, Simpson was an offensive coordinator at UTC.



"I think that being at different levels, a Division II school and three other FCS schools [Jacksonville State, Texas State, and UTC], prepared me to understand that we don't have SEC budgets," said Simpson. "We have to be frugal with our money, make good decisions ... being able to manage our money, get as many players in our program as we can get. [You have to] use your budget on things that matter, [like] winning football games, and that's something that's prepared me for this job."

Simpson also said that making the move to UTM from UTC was the next step in his career for a number of reasons.

"Everybody wants to be the boss," said Simpson. "That's just kind of the next progression. After being an offensive coordinator, you get to be a head coach. [I've had] eight years worth of being here, and I've loved every minute of it."

When he's not coaching the Skyhawks, Simpson enjoys spending time with his wife and three children. He also enjoys being involved at First Baptist Church on University Street, where he serves as a deacon.



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Sports

COLUMN

Tennessee says goodbye to longtime Titans owner

Bradley Stringfield

Managing Editor, Online
Sports Editor

In any professional sport it's easy to point to a few individuals who changed the landscape of a team, city or state, but it's hard to pinpoint any one man in any one sport that is responsible for more change than former Tennessee Titans owner Bud Adams.

On Monday, Oct. 21, at the age of 90, K.S. "Bud" Adams Jr. passed away peacefully in his Houston home from natural causes.

Many younger Titans fans remember a very different Adams than the one who is widely regarded as one of the most influential men in not only NFL history, but sports history.

Yes, this is the same Adams that ran longtime head coach Jeff Fisher and handpicked quarterback Vince Young out of town in the same season. The same Adams that gave the double-finger salute to Buffalo Bills fans during a 41-17 home win in the 2009 season, but there was much more to this man than many truly realize.

Adams was the man in charge of the Houston Oilers/



Photo Credit/Tennessee Titans

Tennessee Titans for 54 years and was one of the co-founders of the American Football League that would eventually merge with the National Football League to create what we now know as the NFL.

In 1946, Adams started ADA Oil Company and 13 years later, on Aug. 3, 1959 he announced

the formation of the AFL, starting with Adams' Houston Oilers.

Adams housed many stars while the team was in Houston, such as Curly Culp, Earl Campbell, Billy "White Shoes" Johnson, current head coach Mike Munchak, current offensive line coach Bruce Mathews and the only African-

American quarterback to be selected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Warren Moon.

In 1996, the Oilers played their last game in the Astrodome after a fairly bitter divorce between Adams and the city of Houston. The next season the team made their move to the Volunteer State and in 1999 took the field as the

Tennessee Titans for the first time in what is now known as LP Field. At the end of that season, the Titans would famously fall just inches short to tying the Rams in Super Bowl XXXIV.

In similar fashion to the late Al Davis, many thought that Adams had lost touch with reality in his later years. However, like Davis, Adams' influence on what is now the NFL cannot be debated.

The city of Nashville has grown into one of the premier cities in the country and a lot of credit for that goes to the Titans organization.

Sure, it's fun to blame Adams for a lot of the turmoil that the Titans have been in over the last few years. Is he really responsible for all of it? Of course not, but he is responsible for some.

However, no matter how bad the team performs, the importance of Adams to the cities of Houston and Nashville, the states of Texas and Tennessee and the NFL as a whole aren't debatable. The NFL Hall of Fame has been questioned on several occasions when it comes to who is, and isn't, inducted each year. Hopefully, in the near future, the work of Adams will go rewarded and he will be enshrined in Canton with many other legends of the game.

Schedule from 10/23 - 11/5

Tennis- UTM Tournament 10/25-27 | Volleyball vs. Eastern Kentucky 10/25 | Soccer vs. Eastern Illinois 10/25

Football @ Austin Peay 10/26 | Volleyball vs. Morehead State 10/26 | Soccer vs. SIUE 10/27

Volleyball @ Eastern Illinois 11/1 | Soccer vs. SEMO 11/1 | Football vs. Murray State 11/2

Volleyball @ SIUE 11/2 | Cross Country @ OVC Championship (Ky.) 11/2 | Rifle @ Rose-Hulman 11/2

Rifle vs. Nebraska (@ Murray State) 11/2 | Rifle vs. Ohio State (@ Rose-Hulman) 11/3

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Sports

Stadium, from Cover

The new stadium, built entirely with private funds of \$150,000, was completed in 1964 and dedicated at the first home game.

"It was necessary to acquire private funds to build the stadium since the University of Tennessee liked to brag that no state funds had been used to build the stadium at Knoxville, and Martin was expected to follow suit," Carroll wrote.

The stadium was officially named in 2001 in honor of Hardy M. Graham, a longtime donor whose financial contributions to UTM exceeded \$1 million in 40 years of giving, according to utmsports.com.

In 1974, the playing field was named H.K. Grantham field in honor of H. Kirk Grantham, a well-known coach and athletics director from the early days of UTJC. Until 2008, when the natural grass field was replaced with Field Turf, an artificial surface, the stadium had been expanded some but the field essentially was the same as it had been since 1930.

The next phase of Graham Stadium's history will begin in December 2014, the scheduled date for the stadium's overhaul to begin.

"The renovation being planned will be a major boost for our students, athletes, faculty, staff and community partners who enjoy football and a range of other events that will be served in this multipurpose structure," said UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes in a Sports Information press release from Sept. 27.

The stadium construction was approved by the UT Board of Trustees in June and initially was scheduled to begin this year, according to the press release.

"We all want to see this project move forward as quickly as possible, but, given all the



This aerial photo shows Hardy M. Graham Stadium at UTM, with the Bob Carroll Football Building and the Student Life Center in the background. The stadium is scheduled for an expansion and renovation beginning in December 2014. | **Photo Credit/Sports Information**

limitations and recent planning developments, this delay makes sense to me," UTM Athletics Director Phil Dane said.

The stadium project should be completed in time for the beginning of the 2015 Skyhawk football season. UTM's home opener is tentatively set for Sept. 19, 2015, against Central Arkansas.

The overhaul of Graham Stadium will transform the venue into one of the finest Football Championship Subdivision facilities in the nation and will meet all requirements to allow UTM to host a playoff game, according to the press release.

As for plans for the new stadium, the entire west side of the stadium will be replaced with new bleacher seating and a four-story building that will total about 21,000 square feet. The building will stretch 50 yards, from 25-yard line to 25-yard line.

Included in the building is a floor level that will include a renovated visiting locker room, referee locker rooms and a concession stand, among other game management space.

The new bleacher seating will extend closer to the field (directly behind UTM's bench), eliminating the current walkway. The entrance to each

seat will now be located through tunnels from the back side of the bleachers.

The second level will be used by the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. The area will include a hospitality and event management program operated through the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. The area will also serve as an academic support function throughout the calendar school year.

The club level is located on the third floor. On football game days, the 2,637- square-foot area will house donors, offering a unique perspective of the game while in the climate-

controlled suite. This level also includes the Chancellor's box and will also serve as a fresh location for banquets.

The fourth tier of the building is a state-of-the-art press box facility. This floor includes nine spots designated for use by the visiting athletics director, visiting radio and coaching staff, television production, print media/sports information staff, public address/scoreboard operator, home coaching staff, home radio and WUTM radio. The area will have a working media area (711 square feet) that can seat up to 28 people, more than double what the current press box holds.